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COUNTRY USSR 25X1

SUBJECT Manganese Mine Accident

PLACE ACQUIRED
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1. There was an "accident" (so-called) in the manganese mines at Kimehi, eighty kilometers northeast of Kutaisi on 22 Oct 53. Thirty-seven miners were killed and sixty others were more or less seriously injured. The accident was supposedly a mine cave-in.
2. Soviet authorities are investigating the cause. Yura Arsenov, an engineer, and his assistant Barseh Sinanian have been arrested. Both declare that the pit-props should have been replaced long ago. They also state that they called attention to this fact long ago.

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